International Application No. PCT/EP2003/007558

Attorney Docket No.: 100412.55831US

Preliminary Amendment dated February 7, 2005

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

(currently amended) Centering A centering system for a screen printing 1. apparatus, with abutment wheels (24) arranged on comprising:

a platform [[(12)]] for plates the placement of a plate (3, 3a, 3b) to be printed, which come in;

abutment wheels arranged on the platform, which wheels are configured to contact with the outside margin edges of the plates plate and secure their the position of the plate for further processing, characterized in that the abutment wheels (24) are mounted on;

longitudinally adjustable servo shafts (14, 15) on which the abutment wheels are mounted on and which lie above the platform (12) and are in turn mounted on;

beams [[(13)]] on which the servo shafts are mounted and which are arranged on-above the platform; and

- a stationary frame (2) and above on which the platform (12) beams are arranged.
- 2. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the servo shafts (14, 15 are mounted swivelingly on the beams [[(13)]] so that their direction directions of action is are adjustable.
- 3. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that further comprising a motor for driving each servo shaft, wherein the torque of the each motors motor (22) driving the servo shafts (14, 15) are is detected and used for determining the plate position.

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4. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 3, characterized in that wherein the magnitude of the torque and the drive for the each servo shafts shaft (14, 15) are recorded recoverably in a memory unit.

- 5. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 1, eharacterized in that wherein the plate dimensions are transmitted received through a CAD system to a positioning system for controlling the servo shafts and in some cases stored in memory.
- 6. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 1, eharacterized in that wherein at least one of the beams are provided with holds includes holes [[(20)]] arranged at intervals and at least one of the servo shafts (14, 15) are provided with pins includes a pin (21, 26) which can be anchored therein in one of the holes.
- 7. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 4, eharacterized in that wherein a transport line is placed before the platform [[(12)]] and a conveyor belt [[(10)]] running parallel to it the platform is associated with it the transport line, by and which wherein the plates plate (3, 3a, 3b) can be raised by a lifting means to the platform level [[(12)]].
- 8. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 7, characterized in that the lifting means is provided with <u>further comprising</u> a plurality of ball guides [[(9)]] lying in one plane, which <u>ball guides</u> can be lifted together above the level formed by the conveyor belt [[(10)]] to the platform level [[(12)]], wherein the plate is raised on the ball guides.
- 9. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 1, eharacterized in that wherein the abutment wheels [[(24)]] stand apart unilaterally from the servo shaft axes (14, 15).
- 10. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 9, eharacterized in that wherein the abutment wheels [[(24)]] are adjustable in distance from along the servo shafts (14, 15).

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11. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 10, eharacterized in that wherein the abutment wheels [[(24)]] are disposed for swiveling at the servo shafts (14, 15) especially at the servo shafts (14, 15).

- 12. (currently amended) Centering The centering system according to claim 9, characterized in that wherein the abutment wheels [[(24)]] are mounted with their axles fixedly on adjustable mountings of the servo shafts (14, 15) and that wherein the supports [[(13)]] for the servo shafts (14, 15) are part of a raisable and lowerable frame which is provided at the top side of the stationary frame [[(2)]].
- 13. (new) The centering system according to claim 1, further comprising a motor for driving each servo shaft, wherein the torque of each motor is detected and used for determining the plate position.
- 14. (new) The centering system according to claim 13, wherein the magnitude of the torque and the drive for each servo shaft are recorded recoverably in a memory unit.
- 15. (new) The centering system according to claim 11, wherein the plate dimensions are received through a CAD system for controlling the servo shafts and stored in memory.
- 16. (new) The centering system according to claim 14, wherein a transport line is placed before the platform and a conveyor belt running parallel to the platform is associated with the transport line, and wherein the plate can be raised to the platform level.